

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

12-0566R

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR CHANGES TO THE CITY'S PET
LICENSING PROCESS.

BY COUNCILOR STAUBER:

WHEREAS, with over 35,000 households and using the American Pet Products Manufacturer's formula the city of Duluth is projected to have as many as 20,000 dogs and 60,000 cats within city limits; and

WHEREAS, licensing pets is important for public safety and pet safety and ensures that urban pets are properly vaccinated and further provides a mechanism for pets to be cared for and reunited with their owners if lost; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the bulk of dogs and cats in Duluth are not being registered since less than 3,000 dogs and cats are licensed in an average year; and

WHEREAS, many cities provide for penalties as high as \$500 for failing to license a cat or a dog and; and

WHEREAS, the council believes the city's animal control operations are a valuable public service and seeks to make those operations more financially sustainable; and

WHEREAS, the council supports having the revenue collected from pet registration fees and penalties go to help support the city's animal control operations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the council hereby indicates its support for the following possible changes to the city's pet licensing process and procedures:

- 1) Increasing dog and cat licensing fees;
- 2) Increase the current \$50 penalty for failing to register a pet to further increase licensing compliance;
- 3) Encouraging the city's animal control operations to more actively pursue education and enforcement opportunities to increase the number of pets licensed within the city;

- 4) Streamline fees, policies and procedures to provide an incentive for the proper licensing of dogs and cats;
- 5) Crediting or allocating dog and cat license fees and fines to the city's animal control and shelter operations;
- 6) New pet licensing options, including allowing animal shelters, veterinarians, pet stores, and animal allies to issue licenses and/or to provide an on-line process for licensing;
- 7) Add a "life-time" license with applicable fee which would enable owners to make only one license purchase to cover the life of the pet;
- 8) Reducing licensing fees for animals that are spayed, neutered, micro-chipped or adopted from an animal shelter.

Approved as to form:



Attorney

CCREQ/ATTY JS:GBJ:cjk 11/5/2012

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution is an indication of support for possible changes to the city's pet licensing process and procedures.